

THE OFFICE ACTION

In the final Office Action issued on May 18, 2007, the Examiner presented a number of objections/rejections.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Zuyev et al, Optimizing injection Gate Location and Cycle Time for the In-Mold Coating, ANTEC 2001 ("Zuyev").

The Examiner rejected claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zuyev in view of Chen et al., In-Mold Functional Coating of Thermoplastic Substrates: Process Modeling, ANTEC 2001 ("Chen").

REMARKS

Amendments have been made canceling claims 1-10 and presenting new claims. Claims 11-29 are now pending in the application.

A. The Claims are not Anticipated or Rendered Obvious by the Cited References

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6 and 10 under §102 based on Zuyev. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for a well thought out analysis of the prior art and his helpful comments. However, as amended, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are not anticipated or unpatentable by Zuyev.

In this respect, Zuyev fails to disclose as recited in claim 1 wherein said step of predicting a coating composition fill pattern in said mold is performed by determining the relation between a pressure in said mold and a flow rate of said coating composition by using a finite difference method comprising the steps of: defining a fixed spatial step to track a flow front location of the in mold coating composition, advancing the flow front location by one spatial step for a fixed time increment, obtaining the pressure and coating composition thickness distributions for said in mold coating, and repeating said steps until the in mold coating composition filling process is complete. In fact, Zuyev fails to disclose ANY method of performing this step (See page 2, col. 1, second full paragraph of Zuyev). The combination of Chen does not cure this deficiency.

Further and with respect to second independent claim 20, Zuyev fails to disclose the method for a two dimensional or greater environment, and further fails to

disclose wherein the step of predicting a coating fill pattern in said mold is performed by determining the following a) the relationship between a fluidity, S, of an in mold coating composition and a pressure gradient present in said mold, and b) the relationship between the coating thickness of the in mold coating composition and an injection pressure. Chen, neither alone nor in combination with Zuyev discloses this feature either. Thus, Applicants submit that the pending claims are patentable over Zuyev and Chen, either alone or in combination.

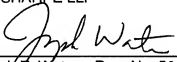
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in light of the above comments. Applicants respectfully submit that all claims recite patentable subject matter. If there are any issues remaining, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned in an attempt to resolve any issues. If any fee or extension is due in conjunction with the filing of this amendment, Application authorizes deduction of that fee from deposit account 06-0308.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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